

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 18. This sheet which includes Figure 18, replaces the original sheet including Figure 18. The legend "Prior Art" has been added to Figure 18.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (Figure 18)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-10 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 9 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Priority

A certified priority document is being filed concurrently with this Amendment. Priority has been claimed to Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-087010, filed March 27, 2003.

Drawings

Figure 18 has been designated by the legend "Prior Art" in order to overcome the objection.

Specification

The specification has been amended in order to overcome the objection.

Double Patenting

Should claim 2 be found allowable, claim 1 will be objected to under 37 CFR §1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof.

Claim 1 has now been canceled to overcome a potential double patenting rejection, as set forth in the Office Action.

Claim Objections

Claims 9 and 10 are objected to because of minor informalities. Claim 9 has been amended to overcome the objection by deleting the reference to the term "four" in describing the sides of the current sensing transistors.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

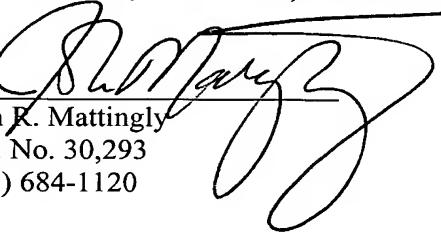
Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In response applicants refer to page 12, lines 81-15 of the specification which explains that the current sensing unit 120 monitors gate voltages G_u , G_v , and G_w of the low potential side output MOS transistors M4, M5, and M6, and applies a voltage D_s identical to the drain voltages of the MOS transistors M4, M5, and M6 to the drain terminals of the current sensing MOS transistors M4b, M5b, and M6b. In the circuit of Fig. 9, the same effect is achieved. See the paragraph bridging pages 25 and 26 of the specification. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
John R. Mattingly
Reg. No. 30,293
(703) 684-1120

JRM/so

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